

Message Text

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USMISSION IAEA VIENNA
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PARM, TECH, IAEA, ENRG, EEC
SUBJECT: EURATOM-IAEA PROBLEMS

1. EUROPEAN COMMISSIONER BRUNNER CALLED ME IN LATE 16 DECEMBER TO INFORM ME THAT MEMBER STATES HAVE UNANIMOUSLY AGREED ON PROCEDURE FOR PLACING INTO EFFECT IAEA-EURATOM SAFEGUARD AGREEMENT. HE PROMISED BRIEF PAPER WHICH WAS DELIVERED LATER (SEE SEPTTEL).

2. BRUNNER'S INTERPRETATION OF THE SITUATION IS THAT IAEA INSPECTORS WILL BE IN POSITION TO OPERATE IN COMMUNITY BY JANUARY 1 BUT DIETRICH HAMMER, WHO WAS WITH BRUNNER, INDICATED IT MIGHT BE CLOSE TO MID-JANUARY BEFORE GOVERNMENTS WILL HAVE OBTAINED CONSENT OF ALL ENTERPRISES INVOLVED. AS WE KNEW, BRUNNER SAID FOUR MEMBER STATES WOULD HAVE TO RATIFY THE "HARMONIZED NATIONAL REGULATIONS" WHICH REPLACE THE SINGLE COMMUNITY REGULATION THE FRENCH BLOCKED. RATIFICATION WILL TAKE TIME BUT THE MEMBER STATES HAVE AGREED THAT THEY CAN PROCEED ON A CONTRACTUAL BASIS NOW.

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3. IN THE LIGHT OF THIS BRUNNER SAID THE COMMISSION HAD TWO REQUESTS TO MAKE TO THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT. FIRST, HE TRUSTED THAT THE UNITED STATES WOULD ACCEPT THIS SOLUTION AND THAT THERE WOULD BE NO INTERRUPTION OF NUCLEAR MATERIALS SUPPLIED TO THE COMMUNITY. SECOND, HE HOPED THAT IF IT PROVED NECESSARY WE WOULD EXERCISE OUR GOOD OFFICES WITH THE

IAEA TO OBTAIN THEIR UNDERSTANDING AND ACCEPTANCE OF THIS PRAGMATIC INTERIM SOLUTION, BEARING IN MIND THAT EURATOM SAFEGUARDS ARE EFFECTIVE AND INDEED THAT SYSTEM INVOLVES MORE EXPERIENCE AND PERSONNEL THAN IAEA. HAMMER WILL BE PROCEEDING VIENNA DECEMBER 20 TO EXPLAIN THE SITUATION AND ANSWER AGENCY QUESTIONS.

4. I REPLIED THAT I WAS UNINSTRUCTED, BUT I THOUGHT THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT WOULD BE IMPRESSED BY THE OBVIOUS GOOD FAITH WITH WHICH THE COMMUNITY IS ACTING AND I BELIEVED WE WOULD BE SATISFIED. AS FOR VIENNA I THOUGHT IT FAIR TO TELL BRUNNER AND HAMMER THAT THE INGENIOUS SOLUTION THE COMMUNITY WAS PUTTING INTO EFFECT WOULD OPEN THE WAY FOR DISCUSSION OF OTHER PROBLEMS. HAMMER MIGHT HEAR ABOUT THREE OF THEM WHILE IN VIENNA. FIRST WAS THE QUESTION OF POSSIBLE DIVERGENCES BETWEEN THE EURATOM REGULATIONS AND THE EURATOM/IAEA AGREEMENT. SECOND I THOUGHT VIENNA WOULD BE CONCERNED THAT PREPARATION OF FACILITIES ATTACHMENTS IS LAGGING AND THAT IN SOME CASES THERE ARE UNRESOLVED ISSUES CONCERNING REQUIREMENTS FOR FACILITY ATTACHMENTS. THIRD, THE COMMISSION HAD TO REALIZE THAT THERE WAS CONCERN IN THE IAEA THAT THE NATURE OF THE IAEA-EURATOM RELATION MIGHT PUT A CEILING ON IAEA SAFEGUARDS IN OTHER COUNTRIES, E.G. JAPAN.

5. WE CHATTED A BIT MORE ABOUT THESE MATTERS AND AS I TOOK MY LEAVE BRUNNER INFORMED ME THAT HE WOULD MAKE A SIMILAR PRESENTATION TO CANADIAN AMBASSADOR CADIEUX DECEMBER 17. HINTON

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